

I. Written Statement of Substance of Applicant-Initiated Interview

Applicant and his counsel thank the Examiner for granting the interview which was conducted at the offices of the United States Patent and Trademark Office during regular business hours on August 16, 2006.

Applicant presents the following written statement of the substance of the interview pursuant to MPEP § 713.04:

Persons present at the interview: Examiner Rowan; attorney Robert W. Dickerson, applicant Cameron Riddell.

Type of interview: personal.

Exhibits shown and demonstration presented: samples of various electric pest deterrent devices were shown. Photos of each of the samples shown are attached hereto. A sample of an embodiment of the invention was also shown.

Claim(s) discussed: pending claim 1 was discussed in general.

Specific prior art discussed: In addition to the samples, Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0092481 A1 (Spooner) was discussed. It was also noted that one of the samples shown appears to be the device depicted and described in U.S. Patent No. 6,283,064.

No agreement was reached.

II. Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [015] with the following amended paragraph:

[015] Figure 3 is a side view of the preferred base of this invention, showing that it is preferably constructed ~~off of~~ of a single extruded piece of material in the desired length.

Please replace paragraph [026] with the following amended paragraph:

[026] As best seen in Figs. 1 and 4, holes **30** are placed through the base **10** in the gap area **28** at regular intervals along the entire length of the base to facilitate attachment of the device to the perch location (not shown), for example. Plainly, the holes **30** are only one of innumerable ways in which the attachment can be facilitated. Attachment can be ~~my~~ by any mechanical means such as screw, bolts, staples or nails, or any other attachment means such as adhesives, or a combination of them. In Figure 6, spaced apart attachment means **38** (which could be screws, bolts, nails, rivets or the like) are shown as the attachment means.

Please replace paragraph [033] with the following amended paragraph:

[033] The device of this invention can be attached to a just about any surface where deterrence is desired -- from flat horizontal surfaces (such as window ledges, building edges and billboard tops where some birds like to perch and roost), to vertical or skewed surfaces (such as fence rails, posts or other surfaces where the device might be used to deter farm animals, vermin or varmints), to radically curved surfaces (such as on outdoor artwork and statues to deter birds from perching and defacing the structure with their droppings). The device can also easily accommodate planar and non-planar angles. Because the device can be radically bent in a non-planar way, most non-planar surface transitions can be accommodated simply by bending the device. For planar surface transitions, the base **10** and braided elements **12a** and **12b** can be easily cut through at any angle using conventional means so that adjacent ends of the cut pieces can be brought together to follow the application topography. The adjacent cut ends of the braided elements **12a** and **12b** can be reattached to recreate the circuit by any conventional means such as flexible, crimpable connector pieces or soldering, as only two of many examples.